Campaign Against Service Charges

FUNDRAISER SOCIAL

SOLIDARITY WITH THE OXIGEN STRIKERS

DEFEND UNION RIGHTS - RESIST THE BIN TAX

Soul DJ with Spot Prizes

Friday, December 12th at 8pm.

Smyth's Pub, George's St, Dun Laoghaire. (Beside *Iceland.*)

(Admission €5) All proceeds to Oxigen Strike Fund

Over 40 SIPTU members working for the private refuse collection company, Oxigen, have been on strike for more than 6 weeks in a battle for union recognition and proper working conditions. Oxigen work on contract for Dun Laoghaire/Rathdown Co Council. They are responsible for the 'green bin' collections of paper and aluminium for re-cycling. Oxigen are paid hundreds of thousands of tax payers money each year by the council and make millions in profits because householders separate waste and giving it free to this private company.

Yet Oxigen refuse the right of their employees to join a trade union. They sacked union activists and sent thugs to assault strikers at their homes. The caravan used by strikers was "mysteriously" burnt out while the strikers were on a march in Dublin a number of weeks ago. The company force the bin men to do compulsory overtime for no extra pay. They must stay on their job until all tasks are finished regardless of how long it takes but receive the same flat rate of pay.

Oxigen are using strike-breakers from Dundalk to do the work of the striking bin men. We should give every support to the Oxigen strikers. We must demand that Dun Laoghaire/Rathdown Co. Council cancel the contract for green bin collections with Oxigen. These bin men should be employed directly by the council. This would mean the profits generated from re-cycling would go back into public hands rather than the coffers of fat-cats and union bashers. The revenue generated from re-cycling could pay for all refuse collection and do away with the need for bin charges.

The Oxigen strike shows the real agenda behind the bin tax is privatisation. The council and Oxigen want to destroy the working conditions of bin men and then privatise the entire refuse collection service. If this happens council workers jobs and conditions will go and we will be paying huge bin charges to private fat cats. So it is vital the Oxigen workers win their fight. We call on householders with green bins not to put them out until this strike is won. We appeal to trade unionists, workers and all those opposed to the bin tax to support the fundraiser for the Oxigen strikers on Friday December 12th in Smyth's Pub, Georges St Dun Laoghaire. Remember workers with families will probably be on strike over Christmas. **Admission €5.** All proceeds to the strike fund.

To contact CASC phone: Richard Boyd Barrett Tel: 087-632 9511

Campaign Against Service Charges

RESIST THE BIN TAX – KEEP UP THE FIGHT

Over the last two months the government and council have used every bullying tactic to try and break the resistance to the unjust bin tax. They have jailed protesters and threatened to halt bin collection to tens of thousands of householders.

They have also tried to blackmail residents into paying the bin tax. Council tenants looking for house transfers have been told they won't get them unless they pay. Disgracefully, in Laurel Ave, Loughlinstown and Fitzgerald Park, Mounttown residents living in homes that are earmarked for demolition have been told they won't be moved unless they pay bin tax. But the bullying tactics have failed.

The majority of households have still not paid their bin tax.
(€19 Million is outstanding in unpaid bin tax. This means over 30,000 households have still not paid).
All bins are still being collected in most areas in Dun Laoghaire and across Dublin.
The council have stopped collecting the bins of non-payers in a small number of areas where most people had paid anyway. Even in these areas residents are throwing their bins into to the back of the lorry themselves.
The council are afraid to stop collecting bins in working class areas where the campaign is well organised because they know they will meet fierce resistance.

So the protests are working - But we need to stay organised.
The council will probably not attempt to leave the bins of non-payers uncollected in areas where the campaign is strong until after Christmas. But residents must stay vigilant.
At some point the council will try their luck. We must keep watch on bin day to ensure all bins are collected. In the new- year the Campaign will organise meetings in every area to prepare for any new moves by the council.

Remember! Bin Tax Today - €1000 per year Council Tax Tomorrow!
If we don't beat the bin tax now - **charges will increase rapidly every year.**

- A committee advising the government has said charges should increase to €1000-€1500 per year.
- Already charges have increased dramatically around the country. Here are some examples of bin tax charges in other counties. Sligo - €10 per week (€520 per year); Westmeath €8 per week (€416 per year); Lietrim, Longford €400 per year; Waterford €390 per year.

-Our bin service will be privatised
Refuse collection has been privatised in 46 council areas.
-Water charges will follow
The Dublin city manager has already called for the re-introduction of water charges.

So Don't Panic – Don't Pay – *Together we will win*!

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